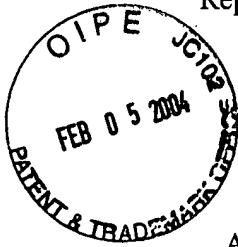


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Patrick W. McManus *et al.*  
Application No. : 09/977,721  
Filed : October 15, 2001  
Title : MECHANISM FOR IMPROVING THE SEALING  
FUNCTION FOR A SLIDE OUT ROOM OF A  
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE  
Group/Art Unit : 3635  
Examiner : Jeanette E. Chapman  
Docket No. : DEW0008.05.1

Box Responses - RCE  
Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Washington DC 20231

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GROUP 3600

AMENDMENT

Examiner:

Please amend the above-identified Application as follows:

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A recreational vehicle having a main room and an expandable room movable relative to said main room to provide additional living space to said main room, a drive mechanism for moving said expandable room between extended and retracted positions, a sealing member positioned between the main room and the expandable room, and a latching mechanism mounted adjacent to a top edge of said expandable room, for latching the expandable room to the main room and moving the relative position of the sealing member and a sealing surface of the recreational vehicle, to enhance the sealing between the expandable room and said main room wherein said latching mechanism mounted includes a latch joined to an actuator by way of a link, said latch configured to receive a bracket when said actuator is depressed.

02/06/2004 SSITHIB1 00000059 020387 09977721

02 FC:1201 86.00 DA  
03 FC:1202 612.00 DA  
SBIMAN1 164736v1